

Bioscience company expansion adds more jobs and post-secondary student internships

by Stacy Dunn

BioVectra Inc. is adding 40 jobs to its Charlottetown location and 110 jobs to its Windsor, NS plant. The company is planning a five-year, \$144.6 million expansion to enhance its biopharmaceutical capabilities.

BioVectra manufactures pharmaceuticals used in the treatment of cancer, kidney disease, cardiovascular disease, and multiple sclerosis.

The expansion will support on-going production of active pharmaceutical ingredients in Charlottetown and of biologics in Windsor.

“In 2018, more than half of the top 10 pharmaceutical products in the global marketplace were based on biologics,” says BioVectra President **Oliver Technow**. “Biologics will continue to be the prime focus of research and development. We are embarking on growing the technological side of this research.”

The company employs scientists, engineers, marketing & sales, business development, maintenance, quality assurance, and information technology staff. “It is a great spectrum of expertise we have,” he says.

The plan includes 25 on-the-job training and internship opportunities for post-secondary students per year over the next five years. The investment will help BioVectra build upon collaboration with UPEI, Holland College, and other Canadian post-secondary institutions and research facilities. Also, annual scholarships for women and Indigenous students will be established.



“We need all kinds of specific qualities from the people we hire,” says Oliver Technow, President of BioVectra. “Our new expansion capabilities will help us not only create new talent, but to acquire it. We offer highly competitive compensation packages.” Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was on location to announce that the Government of Canada’s Strategic Innovation Fund will invest \$37.5 million in the company.

“We are collaborating with Holland College and UPEI to extend more opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students,” Oliver says.

“We want to make sure that people who have a career here, stay here.”

BioVectra, which won the BIOTEC Canada Gold Leaf Award for “Company of the Year” in 2018, employs about 325 people in Atlantic Canada. It was also named Atlantic Canada’s Top Employer for 2018 and 2019 in *Atlantic Business* magazine.

Bioscience education

“The growth at BioVectra is an exciting opportunity for our Bioscience Technology program,” says Holland College President **Sandy MacDonald**. “Graduates of the program are already successful in finding work in their field. It’s encouraging to see more jobs will be available to our students.”

UPEI offers a Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology degree, which combines the two-year Holland College Bioscience program with two years in the science program at the university.

For more information on the educational programs, visit www.hollandcollege.com/programs/Bioscience%20Technology.html www.upei.ca/science/biotechnology

For more information about employment opportunities at BioVectra, go to www.biovectra.com/careers/



A new owner puts company on a path of continued growth and more job opportunities

by Heidi Riley

In February 2019, **Charlottetown Metal Products (CMP)** was acquired by **Food Process Solutions (FPS)**, a global manufacturer of food freezing and cooling equipment. The FPS head office is in Vancouver, BC and there are locations in the southern US, Brazil, China, the Netherlands, and now on PEI.

CMP, located in Milton, has designed, built, and installed custom stainless-steel food processing equipment since 1957. The equipment is used in French-fry plants, frozen vegetable and fruit processors, and poultry plants, to name a few. On the Island, customers include Cavendish Farms, Jasper Wyman Blueberries, as well as lobster and mussel processors. Most sales are to companies across Canada and the US.

There are plans for a major expansion that will double CMP’s existing 42,000 square foot facility, and they also plan to double their staff numbers over the next three years.

“The expansion will allow us to manufacture a broader range of products, and to be the east coast manufacturing base for FPS products,” says **Trevor Spinney**, President of CMP.

About the staff

The company has a staff of about 85. All employees work full-time, year-round. Staff titles include:

- Welder/Fabricators
- Engineering: Designers, Project Managers, Technical Sales people
- Finance and Administrative positions

Hiring needs

- Metal Fabricator and Welder with one to two years of experience.
- Fly in/fly out Metal Fabricator/Welder/Installer travels to customer sites as part of the installation team.
- Project Manager with five to 10 years of project management experience.
- Senior Designer creating 3D designs of equipment using Autodesk Inventor.
- Technical Sales in Ontario and Quebec.
- Technical Sales Engineer-Inside with two to five years of experience in mechanical design and project estimating.



Trevor Spinney, President, CMP Equipment.

“As we continue to grow, there will be more job opportunities. We first look to hire Islanders and people with roots here, because chances are they will want to stay with us long-term.”

Most difficult position to fill

“All positions are hard to fill, but finding Senior Design Engineers can be particularly challenging. We will be hiring from the new graduating class of the UPEI Faculty of Sustainable Design Engineering, but we also need senior people who can provide mentorship. We often have to attract those people from outside the province.”

Recruitment

Open positions are posted on the company website and on other job posting sites such as www.indeed.ca They also advertise through www.careerbeacon.com and use a recruiting company called **Knightsbridge Robertson Surette** at www.kbrs.ca. “Word of mouth also works – we ask our employees if they know anyone suitable.”

2 EJ

For more information about **CMP Equipment**, visit www.cmpequipment.com

For the full interview, including job search tips from **Trevor Spinney**, visit www.employmentjourney.com and search **CMP Equipment**.



April 2019

Daily News Blog ← www.employmentjourney.com → Facebook, Twitter, Instagram